

This past December, my friend and colleague, Julia Carson, lost her battle with cancer. She had devoted her life to public service and her loss is still felt greatly. Congresswoman Carson was an extraordinary person, and a woman of principle who unabashedly championed the issues in which she believed. Her constituents and the Nation have lost a great legislator and an outstanding leader.

Congresswoman Carson made history in 1996 by becoming the first woman and the first African-American Indianapolis has ever sent to Congress. And she came to Congress with one mission—to improve the lives of the people of her community. Even as she rose to a position of prominence in this body, she never forgot the people she was sent here to serve. She truly dedicated her career to them—and for that, earned the respect and gratitude of all Americans.

Since her days in the Indiana State Senate, Congresswoman Carson was committed to helping seniors live with independence and dignity as they age. Throughout her career, she has provided exceptional leadership and devoted service to America's senior citizens.

Congresswoman Carson was also a strong proponent of civil rights movement, scaling the barriers imposed by poverty and sexism. She was a leader in advocating for voting rights, and worked diligently for the health and income needs of people experiencing homelessness and families at risk of homelessness.

Today her grandson continues her legacy here within the House of Representatives. I know that this honor is very meaningful to the Carson family and to her constituents in the 7th District of Indiana, and I'm certain if Julia were here today she would be touched as well. This post office designation is a fitting honor for a woman so dedicated to public service, and I fully support this resolution.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my late great friend Congresswoman Julia M. Carson, a dedicated public servant from Indianapolis. I thank my colleague, Congressman VISCLOSKEY, for introducing a resolution to recognize her achievements by naming a post office in her honor in Indianapolis as the Julia M. Carson Post Office Building.

Julia Carson was born on July 8, 1938 in Louisville, Kentucky and served in various elected offices. We first became colleagues when she was elected to the 105th Congress and served together until she passed away on December 15, 2007.

As the first African American and first woman to be elected to Congress from Indianapolis, Julia Carson was a woman of outstanding ambition and achievements. Not only was Julia a star in her city of Indianapolis, but she was a star of the nation. Her many invaluable legislative contributions, including the recognition of Rosa Parks with a Congressional Gold Medal, were a testament to her star qualities. I hope that my colleagues realize what we lost when Julia passed away.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no one more deserving of this enduring recognition than Julia Carson. This resolution is fitting recognition for a tremendous woman who continued to deliver the truth until her final days. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution as we can all attest to her unprecedented devotion in serving her community and society.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of 5471, naming a U.S. Post Office the

"Julia M. Carson Post Office Building." It is fitting and right that we recognize and honor the extraordinary life of our dear friend and former colleague Julia May Carson.

It is also fitting that the Julia Carson building will be located at 2650 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Like Dr. King, Congresswoman Carson championed the rights of the underprivileged, the underrepresented and the overlooked.

Many people in Indiana and many of us in Congress need no help to remember the great woman that Julia Carson was or what her service meant to her community and the Nation.

We came to depend on her determined leadership and commitment throughout her tenure in Congress. She was a true voice for the voiceless.

I know that her legacy will be carried on through the work of her grandson, the newest member of Congress, ANDRÉ CARSON.

Naming this post office after Julia is the least that we can do to mark her dedication and service to the people of Indianapolis and a grateful nation.

Her loyalty and her patriotism, her service and her love of our country will never be forgotten. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5472.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5472, which designates the post office at 2650 Martin Luther King, Jr. Street, Indianapolis, Indiana as the "Julia M. Carson Post Office Building" in honor of my friend and former colleague, Congresswoman Julia Carson.

Julia Carson was a tireless representative of the people of Indiana who served them from her position as a congressional aide in the 1960s to two terms in the Indiana House of Representatives to service in the Indiana Senate from 1976 to 1990. She vigorously pursued issues related to the needs of working men and women, public health, the environment, and fundamental justice. When the AIDS epidemic broke out, Mrs. Carson was one of the early champions of the right of the sick to be treated fairly as she worked to bring public understanding about the new illness.

As a victim herself of discrimination in health care, which delayed the diagnosis and treatment of her heart disease, she was an ardent advocate for the elimination of all health disparities.

Julia Carson coupled her career in public service with a 10-year stint in corporate America. As Marion County Center Township Trustee in 1990, she saved the financially floundering office, earning the accolade of Indianapolis Woman of the Year from the Indianapolis Star for the second time in her career.

Julia Carson came to Congress in 1996 and brought the same energy and enthusiasm to this body to which her constituents in Indiana had grown accustomed.

As a Congresswoman, Julia Carson was proud of her vote against the Iraq War, her legislation that awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor to Rosa Parks, and her tireless advocacy for women, children, the homeless.

After more than 40 years of service to the people of her district and the State of Indiana and indeed to the country as a whole, I join my colleagues in their overwhelming support of the Indianapolis post office being named in her honor.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 5472 and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5472.

The question was taken. The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1130

WILLIAM "BILL" CLAY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5395) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office Building."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5395

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WILLIAM "BILL" CLAY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Once again I stand as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 5395, which would rename the post office facility at 11001 Dunklin Drive in

St. Louis, Missouri, after a true hero of mine: my beloved father, the Honorable William "Bill" Clay, Sr.

The measure before us was first introduced by my friend and colleague Representative RUSS CARNAHAN from my home State of Missouri on February 12, 2008. I am proud to say that the bill now enjoys the support and cosponsorship of nearly 60 Members of Congress, including the entire congressional delegation from the "Show Me State" of Missouri. H.R. 5395 was taken up by the House Oversight Committee on March 13, 2008, and reported out of the committee by voice vote that same day.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you can imagine that in commemorating the achievements and accomplishments of my father, I could begin anywhere and probably go on endlessly. Throughout my lifetime I have been blessed to experience and witness firsthand my father's commitment to his community and his country.

Congressman Clay served Missouri's First Congressional District for 32 years from 1968 to 2000. Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, Bill Clay served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955. Prior to his service in the U.S. House of Representatives, my father held the position of alderman in St. Louis from 1959 to 1964. And prior to that, he held jobs as a real estate broker, a labor coordinator, and a union affiliate for the St. Louis City Employees Union from 1961 to 1964 and an education coordinator for the Steamfitters Union up until 1967.

During his tenure in Congress, Bill Clay became an advocate for environmentalism, labor issues, and social justice. Co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus, he chaired the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service from 1991 to 1995. His leadership in this policy arena serves as greater evidence for passing the measure at hand, which would name the Dunklin Drive post office in his honor. Upon retiring in 2000, I was fortunate and honored to pick up where my father left off representing Missouri's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, as we move to recognize the accomplishments of a great statesman, father, and to many of us friend, I ask that we pass the underlying bill without reservation and pay tribute to service and diligence rendered by Congressman Clay to this body over a 32-year period. I urge passage of H.R. 5395.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON).

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I really had to come over and couldn't let this opportunity slip by without coming to the floor to say a few words about my friend former Congressman Bill Clay, even though we still kind of call him "Congressman." This is such a well-deserved honor for the former

chairman of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee but really more so because of the man that he is.

Bill Clay has dedicated his life to his community in St. Louis, the State of Missouri, our Nation, and is well loved throughout the State, not just in St. Louis, where he is from. He was a magnificent leader in this Congress for civil rights and a congressman who really exemplified what's good about this institution, and that is that there are so many of us who can put aside differences and strive to work for a common good, and Bill Clay always did that. He was not a partisan politician. He was and he does remain a true leader.

So that is why I am happy to support this legislation to name a post office after our former colleague, a wonderful man and my friend, Bill Clay.

Mr. CLAY. I want to thank the gentlewoman from Missouri, my friend and colleague, for those kind words. I certainly appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 5 minutes to the sponsor of this amendment, my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN).

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to sponsor this bill today before us, H.R. 5395, a bill to name a Missouri post office after a true champion of civil rights, Congressman William "Bill" Clay. Mr. Clay retired from the House of Representatives in the year 2000 after a stellar career in public service.

It's especially appropriate to have this tribute for him to name the Florissant, Missouri, post office in his honor that is located in Missouri's First Congressional District that he represented for 32 years in Congress, where he rose to become chairman of the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service and achieved the third highest rank in seniority in the entire U.S. House.

Mr. Clay was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and began his political career in 1959 as a member of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen, where he served until 1964. Prior to entering Congress in 1968, he also worked as a real estate broker and later as a labor coordinator. He worked for the union of St. Louis City employees from 1961 to 1964 and then with the Steamfitters Union until 1967.

Congressman Bill Clay is known as a true pioneer of civil rights. Throughout his tenure in Congress, he became a champion of social justice and labor rights, working on behalf of the poor and the disenfranchised. Bill Clay was co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus. He was an author of the history of African Americans who served in Congress. And he had a famous saying, that he did not have permanent friends or permanent enemies in politics, just permanent interest. He looked out for the people that he represented, and he served them well. He's been credited with turning back racial

discrimination throughout his career. He remains today an outspoken leader in our community, an accomplished author. This will be a fitting tribute to his years of dedication in public service.

I ask that the U.S. House of Representatives respect this living legend, this inspirational leader, Congressman William "Bill" Clay with this fitting tribute of naming a Missouri post office in his honor.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my friend and colleague Mr. CARNAHAN from Missouri for those kind words and for his friendship to our family. We are both proud Missourians with political families, and I'm certainly honored to serve with him in this body and honored that he would recognize a great Missourian like he has.

Let me also thank Mr. MARCHANT of Texas, too, for his indulgence and his support of this measure and thank the entire body for their support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 5395.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5395, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office Building." I would like to thank my colleague Congressman CARNAHAN for introducing this bill, and Chairman WAXMAN of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee for bringing this important legislation to the floor today.

As my colleagues are aware, William 'Bill' Clay served in the House of Representatives for 32 years, until his retirement in 2000. He was a true leader, a champion of civil rights, and a tireless voice for the people of Missouri's 1st Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Clay was born in 1931 in St. Louis, Missouri and he graduated from St. Louis University. He began his political career in 1959, serving as a member of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen until 1964. He also worked as a real estate broker, and served his community as a labor coordinator. From 1961–1964, he worked for the union of St. Louis city employees, and later with a steamfitters union until 1967.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Clay was also a true champion of civil rights. He was one of the founders of the Congressional Black Caucus, and, throughout his time in Congress, he championed social justice and labor issues. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised, always seeking to give them a voice in these halls. He was instrumental in fighting racial discrimination whenever and wherever it occurred. Congressman Clay authored the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Act, which provides \$375 million in federal loan guarantees for construction and renovation projects at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Because of his commitment to labor he selected committees whose primary business

deals with labor issues, and he served as a senior Member of the Education and the Workforce Committee. Congressman Clay was a champion of education and played a key role in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including efforts to reduce early grade class sizes by hiring 100,000 teachers nationwide. He has also leading the way for our Nation's schools to be first in getting the resources necessary for school construction, renovation and modernization. His work in education has also included winning concessions from the Republicans to increase the amount of Pell Grant funding and the reduction of student loan interest rates.

From 1991 until 1995, Congressman Clay chaired the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service. Upon his retirement in 2000, he was succeeded by his son, my colleague, Congressman WILLIAM LACY CLAY.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will honor a true champion of civil rights in a very fitting way. It is fitting that a former Chairman of the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service be honored with a post office in the very town where his political career began.

I am very proud to support this legislation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in voting honoring William "Bill" Clay and voting for H.R. 5395.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri as the William "Bill" Clay Post Office Building. Representing the people of St. Louis in this chamber for 32 years, Bill Clay was the consummate advocate for Civil Rights, labor, and his community.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri in April of 1931, Clay grew up in the city and graduated from St. Louis University in 1953 with a bachelors degree in Political Science. After 2 years with the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955, Clay returned home to begin his career serving the people of St. Louis. After spending some time as a real estate broker, Clay was elected to the Board of Aldermen in 1959. He held this position, representing the 26th Ward until 1964.

When Bill Clay, Sr. was elected to Congress in 1968, he was the first African American member elected from Missouri and one of only two African American representatives from states west of the Mississippi River. Throughout his 16 terms in Congress, he gained a reputation for his streetwise urban politics. A staunch advocate for civil rights and social justice, he also served as one of the founders of the Congressional Black Caucus. From 1991 to 1995 he chaired the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service and served as the Ranking Member on the Education and the Workforce Committee until he retired. In all that he did while he was serving the people of Missouri in Congress, he still found time to author several books.

Bill Clay, Sr. retired from Congress in 2000 but his legacy lives on through his successor whom I am proud to serve with in this chamber. His successor also happens to be his son, the gentleman from Missouri, WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Jr.

I urge my colleagues to support me in this resolution honoring a man who spent over 3 decades serving his community, state, and country.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this moment to recognize my former colleague, fellow Missourian, and good friend Bill Clay. Today, I join with my colleagues in support of H.R. 5395, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office

Bill was born in St. Louis, Missouri, the very town in which he carried out his storied political career. In 1959, he was elected as a member of the St. Louis Board of Alderman, where he served until 1964. Between 1964 and 1967, Bill worked as a real estate broker and later as a labor coordinator. He also worked for the union of St. Louis city employees and then with a Steamfitters Union.

In 1968, Mr. Clay was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and he proudly served the residents of Missouri's First Congressional District for 32 years. Throughout his years in office, Bill became known as a champion of social justice and a true pioneer for civil rights. He was a co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus and Chairman of the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service. He was always a truly delightful colleague and I am proud to have served with him as a fellow Missouri Congressman. I must also say, Mr. Speaker, that I am also so very honored to serve with Bill's son, LACY, who was elected to represent the First District upon Bill's retirement.

Naming a St. Louis post office after Bill Clay is an outstanding way to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and a true pioneer in American politics. I urge the House to honor Bill for his years of public service and his commitment to his community by supporting H.R. 5395.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the naming of the U.S. Post Office at 11001 Dunklin Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "William 'Bill' Clay" Post Office Building.

William "Bill" Clay served his country and his community at an important juncture in history, as he was one of the cofounders of the Congressional Black Caucus, an institution in this body that has grown in size and stature to 43 members, of which I am proud to be a part.

From his work in his native St. Louis as a real estate broker, labor coordinator and union affiliate, Bill Clay brought a reservoir of knowledge and experience to his service in this body for 33 years. He was well respected and he served as a mentor to me and other members as we learned our way around the House of Representatives.

William "Bill" Clay chaired the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service from 1991 until 1995. It is even more fitting that a U.S. Post Office in his beloved city bear his name and the memory of his work on behalf of so many.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5395.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1038) recognizing the fifth anniversary of the Department of Homeland Security and honoring the Department's employees for their extraordinary efforts and contributions to protect and secure our Nation.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1038

Whereas, in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001, the Department of Homeland Security was created in an effort to consolidate our Nation's efforts to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and mitigate against threats to the homeland, including acts of terrorism, natural disasters, or other emergencies;

Whereas the Department of Homeland Security marked its fifth year of full-scale operations on March 1, 2008;

Whereas the Department has strived to integrate 22 disparate agencies and offices, while at the same time has been successful in helping prevent another terrorist attack over this period;

Whereas the United States must continue to remain vigilant against all such threats;

Whereas the employees of the Department of Homeland Security have spent the past 5 years enhancing our Nation's domestic preparedness and collective response to terrorism and standing ready to assist State, local, and tribal governments as they prepare for and prevent acts of terrorism and respond to natural disasters and other emergencies;

Whereas the Department's employees work diligently to deter, detect, and prevent acts of terrorism and stand willing, ready, and able to respond in the event of a terrorist incident or other major emergency;

Whereas the Department's employees have cooperated closely with the private sector to enhance emergency preparedness across the Nation;

Whereas the American people rely on the Department's employees to protect our Nation's borders, airports, seaports, rail lines, and other transit systems;

Whereas the continuing efforts of the Department's employees will be crucial to the security of our Nation in the years to come;

Whereas the Department's employees have sacrificed, and will continue to sacrifice, time with their families and working long hours to fulfill the Department's vital mission;

Whereas because the Nation depends on the Department's employees to keep the American people safe from harm, they deserve the best in training, testing, and equipment;

Whereas the Department's employees often do not receive the recognition they deserve; and

Whereas the Nation is indebted to the Department's employees for their sacrifices, efforts, and contributions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the fifth anniversary of the Department of Homeland Security; and

(2) honors the Department's dedicated public servants for their extraordinary service to this Nation in helping preserve the safety and security of the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from